Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (Previously presented)   A   method   for   supporting   wireless communications, the method comprising:

assigning a plurality of pseudorandom noise (PN) codes to a field unit;

transmitting an indication of the plurality of PN codes to the field unit;

receiving a first message in at least one time slot, wherein the first message includes one of the plurality of PN codes, and the one of the plurality of PN codes is associated with a type of field unit request;

analyzing the one of the plurality of PN codes to determine a timing adjustment to be made at the field unit to synchronize the field unit with a base station; and

transmitting a second message to the field unit that includes the timing adjustment, wherein the timing adjustment indicates an amount to advance timing and alternatively an amount to retard timing.

2. – 6.   (Canceled)

7.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 wherein the one of the plurality of PN codes comprises a plurality of symbols.

8. – 14.   (Canceled)

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15.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the timing adjustment is a single bit.

16. – 29.   (Canceled)

30.   (Previously presented)   A base station operable in a wireless communication network, the base station comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit an indication of a plurality of pseudorandom noise (PN) codes to a field unit; and

a receiver configured to receive a message containing a PN code from a field unit to determine a timing adjustment to be made at the field unit to synchronize the field unit with the base station, wherein the received PN code is associated with a type of field unit request;

wherein the transmitter is further configured to transmit a feedback message to the field unit containing the timing adjustment, wherein the timing adjustment indicates an amount to advance timing and alternatively an amount to retard timing.

31.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein a first channel supports communication from the base station to the field unit and a second channel supports communication from the field unit to the base station and wherein the first channel and the second channel comprise time slots.

32.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein the

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receiver is configured to receive the message containing the PN code over a plurality of symbols.

33.   (Canceled)

34.   (Previously presented)   A field unit operable in a wireless communication network, the field unit comprising:

a receiver configured to receive an indication of a plurality of pseudorandom noise (PN) codes from a base station; and

a transmitter configured to transmit a PN code selected from the plurality of PN codes received from the base station, wherein the selected PN code is associated with a type of field unit request;

wherein the receiver is further configured to receive, from the base station, a feedback message based on the transmitted PN code, wherein the feedback message contains a timing adjustment that indicates an amount to advance timing and alternatively an amount to retard timing.

35.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein a first channel supports communication from a base station to the field unit and a second channel supports communication from the field unit to the base station and the first channel and the second channel comprise time slots.

36.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein the transmitter is configured to transmit the PN code over a plurality of symbols.

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37.   (Canceled)

38.   (Previously presented)   A method for use in a field unit operable in a wireless communication network, the method comprising:

receiving an indication of a plurality of pseudorandom noise (PN) codes from a base station;

selecting a PN code from the plurality of PN codes received from the base station, wherein the selected PN code is associated with a type of field unit request;

transmitting the selected PN code to the base station; and

receiving a message, from the base station, based on the transmitted selected PN code, wherein the message contains a timing adjustment that indicates an amount to advance timing and alternatively an amount to retard timing.

39.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, further comprising: adjusting transmission timing based on the timing adjustment.

40.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein a first channel supports communication from a base station to the field unit and a second channel supports communication from the field unit to the base station and the first channel and the second channel comprise time slots.

41.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein the transmitter is configured to transmit the selected PN code over a plurality of symbols.

42.   (Canceled)

43.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of PN codes comprise a plurality of groups of one or more PN codes, and each of the plurality of groups of one or more PN codes is associated with a type of field unit request.

44.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein each of at least two of the plurality of PN codes are respectively associated with a different type of field unit request.

45.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the type of field unit request is a request to enter an active mode.

46.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the type of field unit request is a request for bandwidth.

47.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the type of field unit request is a request by the field unit to transmit data.

48.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein the plurality of PN codes comprise a plurality of groups of one or more PN codes, and each of the plurality of groups of one or more PN codes is associated with a type of field unit request.

49.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein each of at least two of the plurality of PN codes are respectively associated with a different type of field unit request.

50.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein the type of field unit request is a request to enter an active mode.

51.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein the type of field unit request is a request for bandwidth.

52.   (Previously presented)   The base station of claim 30, wherein the type of field unit request is a request by the field unit to transmit data.

53.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein the plurality of PN codes comprise a plurality of groups of one or more PN codes, and each of the plurality of groups of one or more PN codes is associated with a type of field unit request.

54.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein each of at least two of the plurality of PN codes are respectively associated with a different type of field unit request.

55.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein the type of field unit request is a request to enter an active mode.

56.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein the type of field unit request is a request for bandwidth.

57.   (Previously presented)   The field unit of claim 34, wherein the type of field unit request is a request by the field unit to transmit data.

58.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein the plurality of PN codes comprise a plurality of groups of one or more PN codes, and each of the plurality of groups of one or more PN codes is associated with a type of field unit request.

59.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein each of at least two of the plurality of PN codes are respectively associated with a different type of field unit request.

60.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein the type of field unit request is a request to enter an active mode.

61.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein the type of field unit request is a request for bandwidth.

62.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 38, wherein the type of field unit request is a request by the field unit to transmit data.